

Mr. Speaker, it seems that these non-nuclear nations are getting very leery about the double standard that the nuclear powers are pressing on them, to say that we are going to sign onto a nuclear test ban treaty, but the nuclear nations continue to have the nuclear weapons and we do not know who they are pointed at.

India said, "No, we are not going to agree to that unless there is an additional agreement, and that is to get rid of all nuclear weapons, all nuclear bombs." It seems that the nuclear powers are having problems with that idea. India has already exploded a nuclear bomb device in 1974. It was the only nuclear bomb explosion India conducted and proved to the world India had the technology to also produce nuclear warheads if it wanted to.

But from my readings and meetings with the leaders of this great democratic nation, the largest democracy in the world, by the way, Mr. Speaker, they are committed to getting rid of nuclear weapons altogether, but somehow there seems to be a difficulty among the nations that currently have in their possession nuclear warheads and bombs. So we sign onto a test ban treaty, but the nuclear superpowers still want to hold on to their nuclear bombs. To me, that seems to be a contradiction of the first order.

Mr. Speaker, as I have stated earlier to my colleagues, next week on Thursday, the President of France has been invited to address a Joint Session of the Congress. President Chirac is going to be here to share with our President, I suppose, and the leaders of the Congress, his wisdom on how to conduct foreign policy.

Mr. Speaker, this is really funny. There was an article in the New York Times that came out yesterday where in several instances French officials anonymously dropped a leak here and a leak there saying, "This is what we are going to share with American leaders when our President comes to Washington."

Mr. Speaker, I want to reiterate, I do not see why we should be coming to listen to the speech when he has said: This is what I am going to talk about. Unbelievable. First President Chirac is going to tell the American leaders and our people that we are not doing enough in the Bosnian crisis. France is going to be the leader, or play a very preeminent role in representing, I suppose, the European countries, whatever that means, and to let the United States know that it is not to do this unilaterally, even though we have been successful in the Dayton agreements and the talks that transpired in recent weeks.

Second, Mr. Speaker, another suggestion that we are going to be hearing from President Chirac is that our Government is not giving enough foreign aid to Third World countries. Give me a break, Mr. Speaker. I would like to remind President Chirac who has been providing security for Europe, includ-

ing France, for some 50 years during the cold war when President DeGaulle unilaterally decided to pull out of NATO.

Mr. Speaker, do my colleagues know the reason why DeGaulle wanted to pull out of NATO? Because he did not like the idea that the United States was playing too great of a role in the politics and the security of European countries. Can my colleagues believe that? DeGaulle even demanded that the United States troops that were then stationed in France leave in 60 days.

What was the response of our Government? "President DeGaulle, does that also include the 10,000 soldiers that lie buried in French soil to free you from Nazi Germany?" That is the arrogance that we get from the leaders of this Government.

Third, Mr. Speaker, I might also add to my colleagues that President Chirac is going to have another suggestion for us. He is going to suggest to our Republican colleagues that we cannot afford to force our Government into bankruptcy or default because it will have serious economic consequences to the economy of France, to Europe and other nations of the world.

Mr. Speaker, that is a real interesting lecture. He should be an expert on it, with about a 20 percent popularity rating in France, serious strikes where millions of French workers are outraged that his Government did not provide for their needs, and the problems affecting the economy of France as it now stands.

Last, Mr. Speaker, President Chirac is also going to suggest to my colleagues that we are not fulfilling our responsibilities as a world leader. Do you believe that, Mr. Speaker? He is going to give us some pointers. He is going to suggest how we can go about becoming a better world leader, as if the Government of France is a world leader itself. Excuse me, Mr. Speaker. I think he needs to have a couple more lessons.

Mr. Speaker, I can just imagine the logistic problems we are going to have before President Chirac gives his enshrined speech before us next week.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to address a little more extensively sometime next week a very special person that I certainly admire, who not only have his portrait in our Chamber, but certainly the spirit of that man lives on. I have learned to respect the contributions that he has made not only as a great French patriot, but as a firm believer in democracy and the principles of human rights at the time that we were a colony of the British Empire.

Mr. Speaker, I make reference, briefly, to the Marquis de Lafayette. As my colleagues will note, there are only two murals depicting not only our first President, but this great French patriot.

Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to share with my colleagues the commentary that I wish the Government and the leader of France could be a little more

positive and helpful with regard to the serious problems that we now face in the world. I wish that they would immediately cease exploding these nuclear bombs. If the test are so safe, why are they not done under the Eiffel Tower, in Marseille, or in Paris?

Mr. Speaker, it is a sad commentary that here is a leading democracy of the world playing colonial mostly in the ugliest way, and I wish and hope that my colleagues would share the concerns of the millions of people around the world, the leaders of some 166 nations protesting, pleading and asking President Chirac: Do not explode these nuclear bombs. But despite all of that, Mr. Speaker, he just went ahead and exploded them.

Do you think, Mr. Speaker, this man deserves our presence here? I respectfully submit, Mr. Speaker, he does not. I hope that my colleagues will join me by not being in this Chamber when President Chirac addresses the Congress next week.

BALANCED BUDGET DOWNPAYMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. ROGERS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, this Balanced Budget Downpayment Act is an important step forward. Funding levels will now be based on the conference report funding levels for the fiscal year 1996 Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary appropriations bill. With a few exceptions, relating to issues that remain to be negotiated out, congressional priorities will be reflected from this point forward, both in terms of programs that merit continued funding and those where decreases are justified.

For law enforcement programs, small business loans, passports, visas, diplomatic security, and the Judiciary, full-year funding has already been provided in the previous two targeted appropriations bills.

In this bill, funding is being provided through March 15 for the remaining programs under the jurisdiction of the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary Subcommittee at the fiscal year 1996 conference report levels, under fiscal year 1995 terms and conditions. This puts funding for these programs on the path that will lead to substantial savings—in the Commerce Department, for instance, the conference report provided levels that are a 16-percent reduction from fiscal year 1995, while providing substantial additional resources for the Nation's fight against crime.

So this is an important change, from a formula that keeps funding tied to fiscal year 1995 levels as a minimum, to one that implements that fiscal year 1996 priorities which have been voted on and passed, in the case of the Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary appropriations bill, three times in this House.

I support this Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, and urge all Members to vote for this legislation that will keep the Government fully functioning through March 15.

I am including a short summary of the provisions in this legislation as they relate to the Commerce-Justice Subcommittee, and also a statement clarifying a number of issues.

COMMERCE-JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE PROVISIONS IN FIRST BALANCED BUDGET DOWN-PAYMENT ACT

Provides FY 1996 conference level under FY 1995 terms and conditions through March 15, 1996, for all CJSJ accounts with the following exceptions:

Any programs funded in the previous targeted appropriations bills.

Advanced Technology Program is funded at 75 percent of FY 1995 level for FY 1995 and prior year continuation grants and program administration only, for the period covered by the legislation.

Cops on the Beat program is funded at 75 percent of FY 1995 level, for the period covered by the balanced budget legislation.

The Ounce of Prevention Council, GLOBE, and Drug Courts are also funded at 75 percent of the FY 1995 level.

In addition, the following provisions are included:

A provision allowing Departments and agencies expanded transfer authority to pay downsizing or closeout costs resulting from the funding levels in this legislation, subject to standard reprogramming procedures.

A provision allowing funding for Legal Services Corporation to be obligated only at a rate to cover operations during the time period of this legislation.

A provision withholding funding for Truth in Sentencing grant program, except for SCAAP and CAP funds, pending revision to current Crime Bill program.

A provision allowing the USIA IG to continue receiving funds.

A provision (section 209) keeping Securities and Exchange Commission registration fees at rate assumed in FY 1996 conference.

A provision (section 211) applying FY 1996 terms and conditions to amounts provided in previous targeted appropriations for Department of Justice programs and enacting into law the Justice General Provisions in the FY 1996 conference report, except Truth in Sentencing authorization.

A provision restricting travel expenses for all Cabinet officers (except State, the UN Ambassador, Defense and CIA) to 110 percent of the average for FY 1990-FY 1995.

STATEMENT OF HON. HAROLD ROGERS

The section of the Balanced Budget Down-payment Act that relates to the Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary appropriations bill provides generally for funding at the fiscal year 1996 conference level under fiscal year 1995 terms and conditions, with certain exceptions that are spelled out in the legislation. All departments and agencies are expected to use the fiscal year 1996 conference report and statement of managers and the House and Senate reports relating to the fiscal year 1996 bill to the maximum extent in allocating resources under this legislation, because that guidance will, under all likelihood, become the final guidance for expenditure of fiscal year 1996 funds, and departments and agencies will ultimately be expected to have committed their resources in accord with the fiscal year 1996 guidance that the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees have provided.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Justice Programs: Funding is included for discretionary and formula grants under the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Program. It is the Committee's intent that discretionary grants should be made in accordance with the joint Statement of Managers and that the Department of Justice should prioritize funding for requirements of State and local law enforcement related to the 1996 Olympic Games. Truth-in-Sentencing Grants/SCAAP: A provision is included that withholds fund-

ing for a new Truth-in-Sentencing Prison Grant program until details on revised legislation are worked out. However, funding that was included under this program in the Conference Report for reimbursement to states for the incarceration of criminal aliens is provided.

A provision is included that applies terms and conditions of the 1996 Conference Report and Statement of Managers to amounts provided in the previous targeted appropriations legislation for various Department of Justice programs. Within these terms and conditions the Committee would like to clarify the following:

Under the Interagency Crime Drug Enforcement Program, it is the Committee's intent that the Attorney General, in consultation with the Office of Investigative Agencies Policies, will allocate resources among agencies participating in Interagency Crime and Drug Task Forces based on current task force requirements.

Furthermore, it is the Committee's intent that funding provided for the Federal Prison System includes the construction of new prisons under the terms specified in the Statement of Managers in addition to continued support for the National Institute of Corrections, both of which are critical to efforts to incarcerate prisoners.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Advanced Technology Program—The bill includes language providing funding for the Advanced Technology Program, only for program administration and continuation grants for ATP projects originally awarded in fiscal year 1995 or earlier, at a rate of operations of up to 75 percent of the final fiscal year 1995 appropriated level. This provision will not allow any new ATP grant competitions to be held during the period covered by this Act.

Closing Costs Provisions—The bill includes language similar to a provision included in the Conference Report on the FY 1996 Commerce Justice Appropriations Act requiring that costs associated with personnel actions resulting from funding reductions included in this subsection to be absorbed within the total budgetary resources available to each Department or agency. The provision would allow each Department or agency to transfer funds between appropriations accounts as necessary to cover costs associated with program closeouts or downsizing of agencies. This transfer authority is provided in addition to the authorities available under FY 1995 terms and conditions, and is subject to the Committee's standard reprogramming procedures.

This closing cost provision allows Departments and agencies the flexibility to fund only the costs associated with personnel actions resulting from agency or program termination or shutdowns.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED AGENCIES

With respect to Title IV of the CJSJ bill, covering the Department of State, United States Information Agency and Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, funding at the conference level generally provides an operating level above what has been in effect under the previous continuing resolutions.

For Contributions to International Organizations and Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities, the amount of funds available to be obligated is intended to be no higher than the proportionate amount of the full year funding level that corresponds to the number of days covered by this legislation.

Under the United States Information Agency, continued funding for the Inspector General has been provided for the term of this legislation. The funding is to be derived from the conference level of funding for the

State Department's Inspector General, because that level of funding anticipated the merger of the USIA IG office into the State IG office. Both IG offices are to continue to prepare for the merger, which is fully anticipated to occur during this fiscal year.

With respect to Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs, the statement of managers language in the conference report concerning the Tenth Paralympiad should be carried out on an expedited basis, and sufficient funds should have been appropriated under previous Continuing Resolutions and this current legislation to permit this issue to be addressed during the period in which the current legislation is in effect.

RELATED AGENCIES

Federal Trade Commission.—The Committee expects that amounts provided in the bill for both the Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department's Antitrust Division will allow these agencies to function at the full operating levels assumed in the conference report on H.R. 2076, based on offsetting collections of \$48,262,000 for each agency.

Legal Services Corporation.—The funding included for LSC is interim funding for basic field programs until a new competitive grant program is implemented. The Committee expects LSC to begin a competitive grant program on April 1, 1996 and to be prepared to implement restrictions outlined in the conference report.

Small Business Administration

Disaster Assistance.—The Committee is aware that funding levels provided for the SBA Disaster Loan Program subsidies and administrative expenses may be insufficient to continue the program for the full fiscal year, particularly considering the rate of disasters thus far this fiscal year. The Committee notes that there are two primary reasons for the shortfall. First, the request for subsidy amounts for the loan program was based on proposed legislative changes modifying the interest rate on SBA disaster loans. While the full request for loan subsidies was appropriated, these proposed legislative changes were not enacted into law. As a result, the appropriated subsidy amount of \$34.4 million allows new loan program authority of only \$122.5 million instead of \$407 million as proposed. Therefore, the shortfall is the result of lack of action on proposed legislative changes, which is not under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee, and the fact that the Administration, as a result of no action on the changes, has not amended its budget request to provide additional resources or identified the offsets necessary to provide those resources.

The second reason for the shortfall is the failure of the Small Business Administration to adequately budget for the appropriate level of administrative costs for even a "normal" disaster year in the appropriate account for this program. Instead, the SBA requested the funds for the administrative costs associated with disaster loan making under a proposed emergency contingency appropriation which would have been outside the budget caps and cannot be considered by the Congress under current budget policy. The Committee expects SBA to reprogram funding to cover the base requirements for disaster loan making within the funds provided under this Act. The Committee further expects that future budget requests for administrative expenses under the disaster loan program account will fully cover the costs of providing the services required to manage the loan program level assumed in the budget request.

The Committee recognizes the severity of disasters such as the devastating flooding in Pennsylvania and other mid-Atlantic States

following recent storms, and is confident that SBA will be able to respond appropriately and responsibly to these dire situations within the resources currently available under the Disaster Loan Program during the period covered by the Balanced Budget Down Payment Act. The Committee recognizes that additional funds for the SBA Disaster Loan Program may be required prior to April, and believes that if additional resources are needed, they can be provided through the reprogramming process to assure continuation of the program through March 15, 1996. The Committee will work with the Administration to determine the appropriate level of funding for this program as well as potential sources of funding offsets.

Small Business Development Centers.—The bill provides funding for the SBA Small Business Development Center program at the FY 1996 conference level. This will allow SBA to continue to make funding commitments with State resource partners in the SBDC program based on the full conference amount.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House to be in recess, subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess, subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1854

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. Goss] at 6 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2880. An act making appropriations for fiscal year 1996 to make a downpayment toward a balanced budget, and for other purposes.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. SERRANO.

Without objection, the Chair announced the following Members are permitted to extend their remarks and to include extraneous matter:

Mr. EDWARDS.

Mr. BLUTE.

Mr. ROGERS.

Mr. STOKES.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that

committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2880. An act making appropriations for fiscal year 1996 to make a downpayment toward a balanced budget, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1341. An act to provide for the transfer of certain lands to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and the city of Scottsdale, Arizona, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair declares the House adjourned until 12:30 p.m., Tuesday January 30, 1996.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, January 30, 1996, at 12:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1981. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting notification concerning the Department of the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance [LOA] to Thailand for defense articles and services (Transmittal No. 96-19), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

1982. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting the Department of the Navy's proposed lease of defense articles to Canada (Transmittal No. 10-96), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2796a(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

1983. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting the Department of the Army's proposed lease of defense articles to Oman (Transmittal No. 11-96), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2796a(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

1984. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting the price and availability report for the quarter ending December 31, 1995, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2768; to the Committee on International Relations.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. GOSS:

H.R. 2902. A bill to suspend tariff reductions on winter tomatoes imported from Mexico until the President certifies to the Congress that existing mechanisms are sufficient to protect the domestic industry from import surges from Mexico; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KASICH (by request):

H.R. 2903. A bill to provide for deficit reduction and achieve a balanced budget by

fiscal year 2002; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Commerce, Banking and Financial Services, the Judiciary, Agriculture, Economic and Educational Opportunities, Government Reform and Oversight, House Oversight, National Security, Veterans' Affairs, Resources, International Relations, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TRAFICANT:

H.R. 2904. A bill to amend the Public Buildings Act of 1959 to ensure that any lease entered into by a Federal agency for office, meeting, storage, and other space necessary to carry out the functions of the Federal agency shall be subject to the leasing requirements of the Public Buildings Act of 1959; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 500: Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 835: Mr. FAZIO of California.

H.R. 972: Mr. OBERSTAR.

H.R. 1023: Mr. CASTLE and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 1364: Mr. HASTERT.

H.R. 1802: Mr. PICKETT.

H.R. 1834: Mr. BREWSTER.

H.R. 2036: Mrs. LINCOLN.

H.R. 2500: Mr. TRAFICANT and Mr. PICKETT.

H.R. 2619: Mr. KLECZKA.

H.R. 2856: Mr. STUDDS, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. STARK.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS

Under clause 3, rule XXVII the following discharge petitions were filed:

Petition 8, January 24, 1996, by Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts on House Resolution 292, has been signed by the following Members: Joseph P. Kennedy II, John Lewis, Barbara B. Kennelly, Sam Gibbons, Barney Frank, Ronald V. Dellums, George Miller, W.G. (Bill) Hefner, Cleo Fields, William J. Jefferson, David E. Bonior, Tom Bevill, Thomas M. Barrett, Bernard Sanders, Robert A. Borski, Karen McCarthy, Charles E. Schumer, Luis V. Gutierrez, Peter Deutsch, Alcee L. Hastings, Sanford D. Bishop, Jr., Corrine Brown, Patrick J. Kennedy, Scotty Baesler, Jerrold Nadler, Cynthia A. McKinney, Gary L. Ackerman, Ronald D. Coleman, Pat Williams, Eddie Bernice Johnson, Sidney R. Yates, Jesse L. Jackson, Jr., Eva M. Clayton, Thomas M. Foglietta, Barbara-Rose Collins, Bennie G. Thompson, James E. Clyburn, Lynn N. Rivers, Donald M. Payne, Albert Russell Wynn, Bobby L. Rush, Patricia Schroeder, Henry B. Gonzalez, Anthony C. Beilenson, Sheila Jackson-Lee, Norman D. Dicks, Sherrod Brown, Louise McIntosh Slaughter, Chet Edwards, Carrie P. Meek, Nita M. Lowey, Zoe Lofgren, Melvin L. Watt, Charles W. Stenholm, Earl F. Hilliard, David E. Skaggs, Charles B. Rangel, Harold L. Volkmer, E de la Garza, Bill Orton, Frank Pallone, Jr., Steny H. Hoyer, William (Bill) Clay, Lynn C. Woolsey, G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery, Bruce F. Vento, Harold E. Ford, Bob Filner, Bart Stupak, Tim Holden, Tom Lantos, Cardiss Collins, Elizabeth Furse, Bill Richardson, Fortney Pete Stark, Anna G. Eshoo, Vic Fazio, Jane Harman, Pat Danner, Floyd H. Flake, Harry Johnston, Michael R. McNulty, Andrew Jacobs, Jr., Lloyd Doggett, Frank Mascara, Robert T. Matsui, Patsy T.